

To: Mitre, Alfreda[Mitre.Alfreda@epa.gov]
From: Bohan, Suzanne
Sent: Fri 8/7/2015 6:33:07 PM
Subject: RE: Notice to Access the Southern Ute Indian Tribal Lands
Tribal Notification Gold King S Ute.docx

Thoughts?

From: Mitre, Alfreda
Sent: Friday, August 07, 2015 10:59 AM
To: Bohan, Suzanne
Subject: Notice to Access the Southern Ute Indian Tribal Lands

Suzanne,

Following is the Tribe's information and a rough start to a "notice to access" letter, or enter the Reservation. The signature block should be Shaun's, since your acting you sign, right? The Tribe would like this letter today.

Thank you for your assistance on such short notice.

For the Chairman send the email to Candi, with a cc to Tom Johnson.

cjohnson@southernute-nsn.gov

Cc: Tom Johnson, Tribal Environmental Programs Division Head

tjohns@southernute-nsn.gov

Honorable Clement Frost

PO Box 737

Ignacio, CO 81137-0737

Dear Chairman Frost,

On August 5, 2015, an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) team working to investigate and address contamination at the Gold King Mine in San Juan County, Colo. unexpectedly triggered a large release of mine waste water into the upper portions of Cement Creek. Initial estimates are that the release contained approximately 1M gallons of water that was held behind unconsolidated debris near an abandoned mine portal.

Following the release, the Colorado Department of Public Health and the Environment notified water users downstream so they could take appropriate steps to turn off intakes until the contaminated water passes.

Over the next several days, the EPA teams will be sampling and investigating downstream locations to confirm that the release has passed and poses no additional concerns for aquatic life or water users. As such, this is notification that EPA will access Southern Ute Reservation. In addition, EPA staff has been coordinating with Tom Johnson, Southern Ute Tribal Environmental Division Head to identify sampling locations and to coordinate water quality data exchange.

Alfreda L. Mitre | Director, Tribal Assistance Program | 303.312.6343

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